REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

OFFICE OF FILM & LITERATURE CLASSIFICATION
Te Tari Whakarōpū Tukuata, Tuhituhinga

Date of entry in Register:	28 May 1998
Name of applicant/court:	Secretary for Internal Affairs
Applicant to the Labelling Body:	Not Applicable
Title of Publication:	Woman in Black
Other Known Titles:	Women in Black
Director:	Not Stated
Producer:	Not Stated
Publisher:	Not Applicable
Author:	Not Applicable
Format:	Video Recording VHS/PAL
Country of Origin:	Not Stated
Language:	English

Components of film originally examined:

Feature:	Woman in Black	Running time:	58.30
Trailers:	Nil	Running time:	
		Total Running time:	58.30

Excision/Alteration: No.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

Classification Decision:

Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.

Display Conditions:

Nil.

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Descriptive Note:

Contains explicit sex scenes.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on 27 May 1998

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The classification of the video recording *Woman in Black* has been reconsidered and the existing classification is affirmed. The video recording is classified as: Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.

This video recording contains a main feature only. *Woman in Black* presents explicit depictions of a man and woman engaging in sexual activity while enacting roles of dominance and submission customary to sadomasochism. The woman appears dominant and in control and the man lowers himself before her and performs sexual acts as she directs. The man appears to consent to his passive role and he demonstrates his arousal at the bondage practices to which he is submitted, such as testicle binding and weighting down, and having his arms restrained. He does not appear pained when the woman also lightly paddles buttocks and pulls at his penis.Overall, it is the sexual activities performed, rather than the sadomasochistic practices, which are paramount, as these are explicity focused upon.

The rights and freedoms contained in s14 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 have been considered in relation to this publication. The classification given the publication is considered to be a reasonable and justified limit on its availability, given the explicit sexual content of the video recording.

OFLC Ref: 9800252